

Introduced by Senators DeSaulnier and Wyland

May 18, 2010

Senate Joint Resolution No. 32—Relative to career technical education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SJR 32, as introduced, DeSaulnier. Technical education.

This measure would urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to include career technical education coursework and programs in the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The United States Congress and the President of
2 the United States are beginning the process of reauthorizing the
3 Elementary and Secondary Education Act by overhauling the No
4 Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. 6301 et seq.); and

5 WHEREAS, The President of the United States has focused his
6 reauthorization priorities on the need to make the next generation
7 of Americans more competitive in the global economy by ensuring
8 all pupils are prepared for both college and career; and

9 WHEREAS, The 20th century American workforce had been
10 educated in vocational education programs that led to the United
11 States becoming the most technologically advanced nation on
12 earth; and

13 WHEREAS, The 21st century technical skills needed to sustain
14 the American middle class and keep our nation globally
15 competitive rely heavily on the education and training provided
16 in career technical education programs of today; and

1 WHEREAS, Successful career technical education programs
2 provide a coherent sequence of courses that begin with career
3 exposure in elementary grades and continue through hands-on,
4 industry-specific secondary school courses, with many of these
5 career technical education pathways proceeding on to more
6 technical training opportunities provided by institutions of higher
7 learning, including apprenticeships, vocational schools, community
8 colleges, and in some instances four-year colleges; and

9 WHEREAS, The original No Child Left Behind Act largely
10 ignored the relevance and priority of career technical education
11 coursework and programs in its measurement and accountability
12 system; now, therefore, be it

13 *Resolved by the Senate and the Assembly of the State of*
14 *California, jointly,* That the Legislature of the State of California
15 calls upon the United States Congress and the President of the
16 United States to clearly and expressly include career technical
17 education coursework and programs in the reauthorization of the
18 Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including providing
19 benchmarks and measurement requirements for states' career
20 technical education delivery models, so that such career preparatory
21 coursework and programs are accessible to all pupils before they
22 graduate from secondary schools; and be it further

23 *Resolved,* That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
24 this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United
25 States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the
26 Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and
27 Representative from California in the Congress of the United
28 States.